Revenues from Rail Tel Corporation

732. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 2000-2001 Railway Budget the then Railway Minister had anticipated huge revenues from Rail Tel Corporation of India Rs. 700 crores in 2000-2001 and Rs. 500 crores this year;

(b) if so, whether the anticipated revenue was generated; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and who is responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Railway Budget for 2000-2001 had anticipated Rs. 500 crore from Right of Way which did not materialise. The Railway Budget for 2001-2002 had projected Rs. 700 crore from Right of Way which is also not likely to materialise due to value of Right of Way coming down and Railways' plan to lease the Right of Way on long term annual lease basis. The Right of Way is currently in the process of being leased to Rail Tel Corporation of India Limited.

Shifting of Railway Zonal Office from Bangalore

733. SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Supreme Court has vacated the stay order granted by the Karnataka High Court regarding shifting of the Railway Zonal Office from Bangalore to Hubli and has observed that the Union Government have the discretion to have the Zonal Office, wherever it decides;

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to shift the Railway Zonal Office from Bangalore to Hubli, in view of Supreme Court order; and

(c) if so, what is the progress and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Preliminary survey has been conducted for Zonal Office at Hubli. Action plan is being made.

Modification of Platform at Hubli

734. SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no steps have been taken to restructure the Railway Platforms after conversion of the track between Bangalore and Hubli into broad gauge even after three years, with the result that thousands of passengers are put to inconvenience every day;

(b) whether, Government would initiate steps to modify the platform at Hubli Railway Station, to suit the broad gauge trains; and

(c) if so, any time frame which has been fixed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Platform Nos. 3 & 4 at Hubli railway station are already high level. The Work of raising of platform Nos. 1 & 2 from low level at present to high level has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 14 lakhs and the work has been awarded for execution. The likely date of completion is June, 2002.

Great Himalayan Quake

735. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY:
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, Great Himalayan Quake waiting to happen: Indo-US Expert, appearing in the Indian Express of 24th August, 2001;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made on the basis of this report; and